

Louisiana Agricultural Statistics Service

5825 Florida Blvd. Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70806 Phone: (225) 922-1362 In Cooperation With:

Louisiana Department of Agriculture & Forestry

Louisiana State University Agriculture Center

Volume 05 Number 13

LOUISIANA FARM REPORTER

July 06, 2005

HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS REPORT

June 1 Crop Acreage Report
June 1 Grain Stocks
May Livestock Slaughter and Red Meat
Prices Received and Prices Paid Indexes

Louisiana Crop Acreage

Louisiana farmers were forced to alter some of their March 1 planting intentions in response to wet weather in early March followed by little or no rain throughout the state in late April and May. Growers planted fewer cotton acres than they intended in March, but soybean acreage was up from the intentions estimate. Overall, cotton, sorghum, sweet potato and hay acreages were expected to be up from 2004 levels while acreages for all other major crops were estimated to be down slightly from last year.

Sugarcane acreage for harvest is estimated at 460,000 acres, down 5,000 acres from last year.

Cotton planted acreage is expected to total 600,000 acres, up 20 percent from last year and 14 percent more than in 2003.

A total of 530,000 acres of **rice** are expected to be planted, down 1 percent from 2004. Of these acres, long grain varieties are expected to account for 520,000 acres and medium grain varieties for the remaining 10,000 acres.

Soybean planted acreage is expected to total 900,000 acres, 200,000 acres fewer than last year, but 50,000 acres more than the March 1 intentions.

Corn planted acreage, at 360,000 acres, is down 30,000 acres from the March 1 intentions and down 60,000 acres from 2004.

Sweet potato planted acreage, at 17,000 acres, is up 1,000 acres, from a year ago.

Grain sorghum planted acreage, at 100,000 acres, is up 15,000 acres from last year.

An estimated 130,000 acres were planted to **winter wheat**, down 50,000 acres from 2004. Of these, an estimated 120,000 acres were harvested for grain.

All hay acreage intended for harvest is estimated at 400,000 acres, up 30,000 acres from 2004.

United States Crop Acreage

Corn: The 2005 corn planted area for all purposes is estimated at 81.6 million acres, up 1 percent from 2004 and 4 percent above 2003. This is the largest corn acreage since 1985, when 83.4 million aces were planted for all purposes. Growers expect to harvest 74.4 million acres for grain, up 1 percent from 2004. Farmers responding to the survey indicated that over 99 percent of the corn acreage had been planted at the time of the interview compared with the average of 97 percent for the past 10 years.

Cotton: The U.S. planted area for all cotton in 2005 is estimated at 14.0 million acres, up 3 percent from 2004. Upland cotton acreage totaled 13.8 million acres, also up 3 percent. Growers intend to increase American-Pima cotton planted area 7 percent from last year, to 266,000 acres. Growers in the Southeastern States (Alabama, Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Virginia) planted 2.99 million acres of upland cotton, an increase of 1 percent from the previous year and 2 percent more than they had originally intended in March.

Rice: Area planted to rice in 2005 is estimated at 3.31 million acres, 1 percent below last year's planted acreage. Area for harvest is estimated at 3.29 million acres, also 1 percent below last year's area harvested. Long grain planted acreage, representing 80 percent of the total, is up 2 percent from last year. Medium grain planted acreage, representing 19 percent of the total, decreased 12 percent from 2004. Area planted to short grain varieties decreased 8 percent and represents 1 percent of the total rice acres planted in 2005.

Sorghum: Area planted to sorghum in 2005 is estimated at 7.01 million acres, down 6 percent from 2004. Area harvested for grain is forecast at 6.03 million acres, down 7 percent from last year. Kansas continues to have the largest area of sorghum planted at 2.90 million acres, down 9 percent from last year.

Soybeans: The 2005 soybean planted area is estimated at 73.3 million acres, down 3 percent from last year. Area planted decreased or was unchanged from last year in all states except Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Tennessee and Texas. Area for harvest is forecast at 72.4 million acres, down 2 percent from 2004.

Planted Acreage, June 1, 2005

1 latted Acreage, June 1, 2003								
Сгор	Louisiana			United States				
	2004	2005	%Change	2004	2005	% Change		
	Thousand Acres			Thousand Acres				
Corn	420	360	-14	80,930	81,592	+1		
Upland Cotton	500	600	+20	13,409	13,760	+3		
Rice, All	538	530	-1	3,347	3,309	-1		
Sorghum	85	100	+18	7,486	7,013	-6		
Soybeans	1,100	900	-18	75,208	73,303	-3		
Sweet Potatoes	16	17	+6	96.9	92.3	-5		
Winter Wheat	180	130	-28	43,350	41,408	-4		
Hay ¹	370	400	+8	61,916	61,723			
Sugarcane ^{1,2}	465	460	-1	938.2	947.9	+1		

¹ Harvested Acres

² For sugar and seed

Sweet potatoes: Panted area of sweet potatoes is estimated at 92,300 acres for the 2005 season, down 5 percent from last year and 4 percent below two years ago. Harvested area is forecast at 89,500 acres, a decrease of 4 percent from 2004 and 3 percent below 2003. Most of this decrease is in North Carolina where growers are planting fewer acres due to high stocks from the 2004 crop remaining to be sold. New Jersey's planted acres are also less than last year. Growers in California, Louisiana and Mississippi are planting more acres than last year. Alabama, South Carolina, Texas and Virginia's planted acres are unchanged from 2004. Harvested acreage is expected to decrease in New Jersey and North Carolina. Producers in South Carolina, Texas and Virginia expect to harvest the same acreage as in 2004. Growers in Alabama, California, Louisiana and Mississippi expect harvested acres to increase.

Winter Wheat: The 2005 winter wheat planted area, at 41.4 million acres, is 4 percent below last year but down less than 1 percent from the previous estimate. Area harvested for grain is estimated at 34.3 million acres, down 2 percent from the June 1 forecast and 1 percent below the 2004 total.

Hay: Producers expect to harvest 61.7 million acres of all hay in 2005, down fractionally from 2004. Harvested area of alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures is forecast at 22.1 million acres, up 2 percent from last year. All other hay harvested area is expected to total 39.6 million acres, down 2 percent.

Sugarcane: Area for harvest for sugar and seed during the 2005 crop year is estimated at 948,000 acres, 1 percent above last year. Area for harvest in Louisiana is down 5,000 acres from last year, while Florida growers expect to harvest 14,000 acres more than last year's hurricane-damaged crop.

Louisiana and U.S. Grain Stocks, June 1, 2004-2005

Item	Louis	siana ¹	United States		
	Jur	ne 1	June 1		
	2004	2005	2004	2005	
	Thousand Bushels		Thousand Bushels		
Corn					
On Farm			1,540,000	2,462,300	
Off Farm ²	<u>9,706</u>	<u>14,424</u>	1,430,140	1,857,657	
TOTAL			2,970,140	4,319,957	
Sorghum					
On Farm			7,650	16,000	
Off Farm ²	<u>1,150</u>	<u>658</u>	72,944	88,369	
TOTAL			80,594	104,369	
Soybeans					
On Farm			110,000	356,100	
Off Farm ²	<u>1/</u>	<u>1,229</u>	300,604	343,544	
TOTAL	_		410,604	699,644	
All Wheat					
On Farm			131,880	161,275	
Off Farm ²	<u>4,409</u>	<u>5,508</u>	414,559	378,566	
TOTAL	<u>——</u>		546,439	539,841	

¹ Louisiana on-farm stocks and total stocks not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

Louisiana Grain Stocks

Total off-farm sorghum stocks were estimated at 658,000 bushels, down 43 percent from a year ago.

Off-farm holdings of corn totaled 14.4 million bushels, up 49 percent from 2004.

All wheat off-farm stocks totaled 5.51 million bushels, compared to 4.41 million bushels in 2004.

United States Grain Stocks

Corn stocks in all positions on June 1, 2005, totaled 4.32 billion bushels, up 45 percent from June 1, 2004. This is the highest June 1 stocks level since 1988. Of the total stocks, 2.46 billion bushels are stored on farms, up 60 percent from a year earlier. Off-farm stocks, at 1.86 billion bushels, are up 30 percent from a year ago. The March – May 2005 indicated disappearance is 2.44 billion bushels, compared with 2.30 billion bushels during the same period last year.

Soybeans stored in all positions on June 1, 2005, totaled 700 million bushels, up 70 percent from June 1, 2004. On-farm stocks totaled 356 million bushels, up 224 percent from a year ago. Off-farm stocks, at 344 million bushels, are up 14 percent from the previous year. The March – May 2005 indicated disappearance is 682 million bushels, up 38 percent from the same period a year earlier.

All wheat stored in all positions on June 1, 2005, totaled 540 million bushels, down 1 percent from a year ago. On-farm stocks are estimated at 161 million bushels, up 22 percent from last year. Off-farm stocks, at 379 million bushels, are down 9 percent from a year ago. The March – May 2005 indicated disappearance is 445 million bushels, down 6 percent from the same period a year earlier.

Grain sorghum stored in all positions on June 1, 2005, totaled 104 million bushels, up 29 percent from a year ago. On-farm stocks, at 16.0 million bushels, are up 109 percent from last year. Off-farm stocks, at 88.4 million bushels, are up 21 percent from June 1, 2004. The March – May 2005 indicated disappearance from all positions is 99.2 million bushels, up from 78.1 million bushels during the same period a year ago.

² Includes stocks at mills, elevators, warehouses, terminals, and processors.

Louisiana Livestock Slaughter

Commercial red meat production in Louisiana during May totaled 800 thousand pounds, down 20 percent from April and 20 percent lower than the previous year.

There were 1,000 head of **cattle** slaughtered during May, 200 head fewer than in April and in May of the previous year. Average live weight was 852 pounds, down 92 pounds from the previous month but 40 pounds above May 2004. Total live weight, at 815,000 pounds, was 27 percent below the previous month and 16 percent below the previous year.

Calves slaughtered during May totaled 400 head, down 100 head from April and from May of the previous year. Live weight averaged 499 pounds, down 3 pounds from April but 27 pounds above May 2004. Total live weight, at 201,000 pounds, was down 14 percent from April and 10 percent below the previous year.

The number of **hogs** slaughtered during May totaled 1,400 head, up 100 head from the previous month but 300 head below the previous year. Average live weight was 186 pounds, down 10 pounds from April and 20 pounds below the previous year. Total live weight was 264,000 pounds, unchanged from April but 25 percent below a year ago.

The number of **sheep** slaughtered during May was 100 head, unchanged from April and also the same as the previous year. Live weight averaged 97 pounds, up 10 pounds from the previous month and 3 pounds above the previous year.

United States Livestock Slaughter

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 3.71 billion pounds in May, up 3 percent from the 3.60 billion pounds produced in May 2004.

May 2005 contained 22 weekdays (including one holiday) and 4 Saturdays. May 2004 contained 21 weekdays (including one holiday) and 5 Saturdays.

Beef production, at 2.07 billion pounds, was slightly above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.79 million head, down 2 percent from May 2004. The average live weight was up 20 pounds from the previous year, at 1,224 pounds.

Veal production totaled 13.2 million pounds, 4 percent below May a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 58,500 head, down 10 percent from May 2004. The average live weight was 22 pounds above last year, at 376 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.61 billion pounds, up 7 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 8.03 million head, 6 percent above May 2004. The average live weight was 4 pounds above the previous year, at 270 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 14.8 million pounds, was up 14 percent from May 2004. Sheep slaughter totaled 208,000 head, 10 percent above last year. The average live weight was 143 pounds, up 5 pounds from May a year ago.

January to May 2005 commercial red meat production was 18.3 billion pounds, down slightly from 2004. Accumulated beef production was down 2 percent from last year; veal was down 10 percent; pork was up 1 percent from last year; and lamb and mutton production was down 4 percent.

Commercial Livestock Slaughter and Meat Production

	Louisiana					United States			
	April	May		January - May		May		January – May	
Item	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005
	Number, thousand head					Number, thousand head			
Cattle	1.2	1.2	1.0	6.0	5.8	2,836.1	2,792.1	13,410.9	12,944.6
Calves	0.5	0.5	0.4	2.7	2.4	64.7	58.5	362.4	317.5
Hogs	1.3	1.7	1.4	9.9	8.8	7,578.6	8,030.2	41,948.6	42,003.2
Sheep & Lambs	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.8	0.8	188.7	208.0	1,184.4	1,132.7
]	Total live wei	ght, thousa	nd pounds		Total live weight, thousand pounds			
Cattle	1,109	966	815	5,195	5,104	3,415,402	3,416,695	16,357,176	16,036,888
Calves	234	224	201	1,346	1,162	22,911	21,980	120,292	108,535
Hogs	264	354	264	2,104	1,768	2,016,047	2,167,449	11,230,231	11,351,974
Sheep & Lambs	10	9	11	84	87	26,098	29,639	165,578	158,450
	Average live weight, pounds					Average live weight, pounds			
Cattle	944	812	852	866	880	1,204	1,224	1,220	1,239
Calves	502	472	499	499	484	354	376	332	342
Hogs	196	206	186	213	201	266	270	268	270
Sheep & Lambs	87	94	97	105	109	138	143	140	140
	Million pounds				Million pounds				
Red Meat	1.0	1.0	0.8	5.7	5.2	3,596.9	3,714.4	18,373.5	18,284.7

Prices Received Index Unchanged

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in June, at 120 (based on 1990-92=100), was unchanged from May. The Crop Index is up 2 points, but the Livestock Index decreased 3 points. Producers received higher commodity prices for lettuce, soybeans, broccoli, grapefruit and potatoes. Lower prices were received for cattle, hogs, strawberries, dairy products and tomatoes. The overall index is also affected by the seasonal change based on a 3-year average mix of commodities a producer sells. Increased average marketings of wheat, grapes, hay and cantaloupe offset decreased marketings of tomatoes, oranges, sweet corn and strawberries.

The preliminary All Farm Products Index is down 8 points from June 2004. The Food Commodities Index, at 123, decreased 1 point from last month and 8 points from June 2004

Prices Paid Index Unchanged

The June Index of Prices Paid for Commodities and Services, Interest, Taxes and Farm Wage Rates is 139 percent of the 1990-92 average. The index is unchanged from May but 4 points above June 2004. Lower prices in June for feeder pigs, LP gas, hay and forages and feed supplements offset higher prices for diesel fuel, feeder cattle, complete feeds and nitrogen fertilizers.

Average Prices Received By Farmers

		Louisiana	1	United States				
	Entire Month		Preliminary	Entire Month		Preliminary		
Item	June 2004	May 2005	June 2005 ¹	June 2004	May 2005	June 2005 ¹		
		Dollars			Dollars			
Soybeans, per bushel	<u>2/</u>	6.22	7.08	9.08	6.20	6.72		
Rice, per cwt	9.41	7.14	7.21	9.30	6.97	7.01		
Upland Cotton, per	.587	.398	<u>2/</u>	.599	.420	$.407^{3}$		
Hay, all, baled, per ton	n/a	n/a	n/a	95.20	107.00	102.00		
Beef Cattle, per cwt ⁴	66.20	72.10	70.50	89.80	92.40	89.50		
Steers & Heifers, per cwt	101.00	110.00	105.00	93.80	96.40	93.10		
Cows, per cwt ⁵	50.60	55.00	55.00	53.70	58.50	57.30		
Calves, per cwt	115.00	129.00	127.00	125.00	141.00	140.00		
Broilers, live, per pound	n/a	n/a	n/a	.520	.440	.440		
Eggs, All, per dozen	n/a	n/a	n/a	.665	.452	.450		
Milk, All, per cwt ⁶	n/a	n/a	n/a	18.20	14.80	14.60		

¹ Mid-month.

n/a = not available.

The Louisiana Farm Reporter (USPS-0056-7670) is published semi-monthly (Twice a month) by the Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry, Louisiana Agricultural Statistics Service, 5825 Florida Blvd., Baton Rouge, La 70806. Subscription is free to respondents and cooperators, \$10.00 annually to all others, and is available from the above address. Periodicals Postage is Paid in Baton Rouge, LA and at additional mailing offices. Postmaster: send changes of address to Louisiana Farm Reporter, P. O. Box 65038, Baton Rouge, LA 70896-5038.

Internet Access:

*For free automatic e-mail subscriptions to this
publication go to

http://www.nass.usda.gov/sub-form.htm or
visit our homepage at

http://www.nass.usda.gov/la/

² Price not published to avoid disclosure of individual firms.

³ Preliminary prices are based on sales during the first half of the month.

^{4 &}quot;Cows" and "steers and heifers" combined.

⁵ Beef cows and cull dairy cows sold for slaughter.

⁶ Before deductions for hauling and government withholdings. Includes bulk tank, quantity and other premiums. Excludes hauling subsidies.